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The Balance, AND COLUMBIAN REPOSITORY.

" HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D !
" HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D !"
BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (New-York) TUESDAY, April 19, 1803.

Political.

FOR THE BALANCE.

No. III.

TO AMBROSE SPENCER, Esq.

ONE of the brilliant gems in your character is a ſingular verſatility of mind, bending with peculiar eaſe and felicity to the changes of times and circumſtances and to the intereſts of party. A ſhort time only has elapſed ſince you were a zealous and a doughty champion for the uncontrouled freedom of the preſs.—When Waſhington was accuſed of embezzling the public money, and was denounced as " the ſource of the misfortunes of our country ;" as the man who had " given currency to political iniquity and had legaliſed corruption ;" who had " cankered the principles of republicaniſm in an enlightened people, and carried his deſigns againſt the public liberty ſo far as to put in jeopardy its very exiſtence :" When Adams was called " a hoary headed traitor," and was charged with the *murder* of Jonathan Robbins : When Jay, than whom a purer patriot does not live, was overwhelmed with torrents of the moſt malignant ſlander, and was denounced as a miſcreant who had ſacrificed the intereſts of his country for Britiſh gold : When Pickering was charged of robbing the public treaſury of millions of dollars : When Wolcott was accuſed of burning the war office to hide the villainy of the officers : When almoſt every federal man, whoſe ſtation, talents and luſtre of character, rendered him conſpicuous, was aſſailed with the moſt venomous calumnies from the preſſes of *hireling foreigners* ;—*your zeal* againſt the abuſe of public men and meaſures was dormant. Who ever heard you exclaim that the preſſes were, at thoſe periods, licentious ? Did they not receive your warm approbation and applauſe ?—Did you not ſnuff the ſcent of murdered reputations, with ineffable delight ?——The preſs was then, in your opinion, the bulwark of our national freedom : it was the holy ark, which you deemed too ſacred to be touched. But mark your boaſted conſiſtency ! The federal adminiſtration has been demoliſhed by the batteries of infernal calumny ; Mr. Jefferſon has ſucceeded to the chair of ſtate ; and *him* you would inveſt with the ſame privileges of ſacred inviolability which are allowed to the monarch of Great-Britain. Truth itſelf, uttered againſt an *elective* officer, the executive of this republican nation, is, forſooth a libel : nay, it has been confidently and loudly aſſerted that " the greater the truth, the greater is the libel."——From the dark tomb of antiquity has lately emerged the long exploded monkiſh doctrine of *paſſive obedience :* an attempt is making to deify this haggard ſpectre ; and you yourſelf (a hater of prieſts) are offering to miniſter, as high prieſt, before her altar.

Your political machine of *European* conſtruction has, however, been put in ſo furious a motion that it has already recoiled forceably upon the hand that held it ;—

——" As ſome muſquets ſo contrive it,
As oft to miſs the mark they drive at,
And though well aim'd at duck or plover,
Bear wide and kick their owners over."

Some men have been able to cruſh the liberties of a nation at a ſingle blow.—" When Bonaparte, ſays D'Ivernois, had ſuppreſſed eighty newſpapers, he affirmed that now the liberty of the preſs had ſucceeded to its licentiouſneſs." Perhaps you alſo may have cheriſhed the idea that the true liberty of the preſs, in this country, is the liberty of printing and publiſhing excluſively on your own ſide : yet it would require conſiderable art and management for you to bring matters to this paſs. You have not the arm of a Bonaparte ; and ſhould therefore have remembered the advice of Voltaire, " Strike, but *hide your hand.*" But, forgetting to temper your zeal, you have alarmed the public without effecting your purpoſe.—The principle that you have aimed to eſtabliſh would, if eſtabliſhed, be a death-blow to public liberty ; it would be more calamitous to this nation than an earthquake that ſhould ſwallow up towns and cities. Was it your averſion to George the third that cauſed you to reject the *modern* cuſtom and uſage of Britain, in caſes of libels, and to explore the annals of antiquity ? Or do you not well know that any civil officer who ſhould have urged in England, ten years ago, the ſame ſlaviſh principle which you have lately urged in this republican country, would have been overwhelmed with public indignation ?——Hume has with great propriety remarked, " The Engliſh ought to be cautious of appealing to the practice of their anceſtors, or regarding the maxims of uncultivated ages as certain rules for their preſent conduct." And ſtill more dangerous, and infinitely more abſurd it is for our nation to recur to the an-

cient and barbarous practices and maxims of a monarchy and to uſe them in the government and police of our free republic. Yet this you have attempted to do.—What a curious ſpectacle has the public lately beheld !—The *conſiſtent, the patriotic* Ambroſe Spencer, who, "lives and moves and has his being" for the good of the people, producing from the cells of monks, from the muſty and worm-eaten records of dark ages, a *royal* ſtatute that, centuries ago, was obſolete, and aiming to uſe it as an engine to cruſh the preſs. Alas, for your diſappointment !—" How are the mighty fallen !"

You ironically tell your reader not to laugh at *me :* and what is the ridiculous inſtance of my conduct to which you allude ?—It is my diſclaiming any connection with the Waſp, and yet eſpouſing the cauſe of its editor. This you would repreſent as an evidence of the vileſt hypocriſy. The baſe inſinuation I deſpiſe and indignantly repel ; and confidently claim, in this as in all other inſtances, the character of conſiſtency and integrity of conduct. It is true that the Waſp had neither patronage nor encouragement from me ; and it is alſo true that I have been one among thouſands of freemen, who would ſhield the editor from the arm of violence that has been uplifted to cruſh and deſtroy him. The manner of conducting his proſecution, and the political principle you advanced in the courſe of that buſineſs, affect deeply the intereſt, not merely of an individual or of editors in general, but of all the freemen in the United States.

Curious indeed is the method you take to wipe off the ſtain of inconſiſtency (" reader, do not laugh") from *yourſelf.* You oppoſed the Sedition law on the principle that it was unconſtitutional ; whereas the Britiſh common law, you think, happily accords with our republican conſtitution. It is, however, well known that the Sedition law was denounced as not merely unconſtitutional, but as oppreſſive and tyrannical. Now if that law were tyrannical, the common law is ſurely much more ſo : if the former would have chaſtiſed people with *whips*, the latter will chaſtiſe them with *ſcorpions.* Under the Sedition law, the accuſed might juſtify by proving the allegations charged : the common law allows not this privilege, but puniſhes truth itſelf as a libel. The Sedition law gave to the puniſhment of fine and impriſonment certain limits, which it was not in the power of the courts to exceed : the common law leaves the accuſed to be puniſhed at the diſcretion of the court, which has power to make him a priſoner, ſeven years or even during life, for publiſhing what he knows and can prove to be truth. The *latter* metes out the ſame meaſure of puniſhment for libelling the preſident who is an *elective* officer, and, according to your own creed, is merely a *ſervant* of the people, which cuſtom and uſage have affixed to a libel on the king of Great Britain, whoſe office is permanent and hereditary, and who is conſtitutionally the *ſovereign* of the people.

And is it certain that an attempt to puniſh a ſuppoſed libel againſt the adminiſtration of the union, by means of the Britiſh common law, is not a violation of the conſtitution ?—The juriſdiction of the federal government and of the ſtate governments are diſtinct and ſeparate, and cannot interfere with each other without breeding horrible confuſion. When the conſtitution of this ſtate was formed, and the Britiſh common law was incorporated with the ſtate-code, the conſtituent convention could have had no idea of applying that common law, as a ſhield to the preſident of the U. States ; becauſe the federal conſtitution and its officers did not then exiſt. The conſtitution expreſsly ſays, " Exceſſive bail ſhall not be required, nor exceſſive fines impoſed :" and does not this inhibition exclude the operation of the Britiſh common law, which leaves it in the power of the court to require bail and to impoſe fines, according to its own pleaſure ? The conſtitution alſo provides that the accuſed " ſhall have compulſory proceſs for obtaining witneſſes in his favour." Is it in the power of the court before which you have proſecuted, to grant ſuch " compulſory proceſs," beyond the limits of this ſtate ?—Certainly it is not. The convention of the ſtate of New-York, when it adopted the federal conſtitution, annexed to the adoptive act the following declaration, " that the freedom of the preſs ought not to be violated, or reſtrained." And ſuch was the public jealouſy reſpecting this very important point that an amendment has been added to the conſtitution, ordaining that " Congreſs ſhall make no law abridging the freedom of ſpeech, or of the preſs." But if the officers of particular ſtates are inveſted with the power of carrying the terrors of the Britiſh common law into the diſtrict of the federal government, and of puniſhing what they deem to be libels with fine and impriſonment at pleaſure, this conſtitutional ſhield to the freedom of ſpeech and of the preſs is rendered utterly ineffectual and futile.

Ponder theſe points, and ſeriouſly aſk yourſelf, whether a ſtate proſecution, in common law, for a ſuppoſed libel againſt the executive of the United States, be not contrary to the *ſpirit and intention* of the federal conſtitution. To ſupport that conſtitution you are ſolemnly bound by your oath of office. It is expreſsly declared, in the inſtrument itſelf, to be the ſupreme law of the land ; and as ſuch, it has been adopted and received by the people : therefore, (the conſtitution of the United States being the ſupreme law of the land,) any acts or laws of particular ſtates, which militate with it, are null and void.

You will conſider this and the foregoing addreſſes as an introduction to a much more extenſive correſpondence, ſhould circumſtances render it neceſſary. It was my deſign to canvaſs the moſt prominent inſtances of your *whole* political conduct, during ſeveral of the laſt years. The ſubject is fertile, and would afford much inſtruction and ſome amuſement : for the preſent, however, it is ſuſpended ; and its aſſumption or final relinquiſhment will depend on your future conduct.

EZRA SAMPSON.

EXTRACT

From a publication in the Recorder ſigned Federaliſt.

DURING the laſt year of the adminiſtration of Mr. Adams, certain publications appeared in the paper called the Aurora, over the head of which there appeared in capital letters, theſe words,

PUBLIC PLUNDER.

In theſe publications, there were poſitive aſſertions, accompanied by a ſtatement in figures, accuſing, and explaining the pretended frauds which had been committed upon the public, by the perſons who then adminiſtered the government, and conducted the treaſury. And they were ſo contrived, that every man who did not know that the whole was a fabrication, believed that the public had been defrauded out of more than 500,000 dolls. The fabrication was ſo contrived, as to fix this ſuſpicion upon Mr. Adams, Mr. Pickering, and Mr. Wolcott. The mode in which the fabricators acted, was as follows. One of the clerks of Mr. Wolcott's office was debauched from his duty. He introduced into the treaſury office, (or conveyed the treaſury books to ſome other place) five or ſix of the Pennſylvanian democrats, to whom theſe books were expoſed. They took down all the charges for money which appeared on the books againſt Pickering, &c. amounting to about 700,000 dolls. more or leſs. They paid no regard to credits, nor to the knowledge which every one of them had, that much of the money was aſſigned to Mr. P. for the purpoſe of paying a debt which the U. States owed in Holland, tho' they knew that it would be perfectly improper to allow any credit upon the books to Mr. P. until the payments, and other purpoſes for which the money was advanced, were fully exemplified. All this has ſince been done. Mr. P. ſtands acquitted ; nay, more, it appears that he negociated the payments in Holland with ſo much ability and fidelity, that he ſaved in the p ice or rate of exchange more than 14000 dolls. which ſum he voluntarily gave an account of and

ſurrendered to the public. The friends of Mr. P. were aſtoniſhed that he ſhould have borne in ſilence ſuch defamatory publications. The reaſon was this. The money was appropriated to effect certain duties; as for inſtance, the purchaſe of bills of exchange. If Mr. P. had defended himſelf againſt the defamation, and ſtated that the money was appropriated for purchaſing bills of exchange, he could at once have ſilenced the ſtory about *public plunder;* but he would at the ſame time have expoſed the ſecrets of government. The dealers in exchange would have diſcovered that the public wanted a large ſum in bills upon Amſterdam. The exchange upon ſuch would have riſen, and inſtead of gaining 14000 dolls. as has been done, he might have acted as Gallatin has done in a ſimilar negociation, ſo that the public might have been very greatly injured.

Balance Closet.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

No. VIII.

A CITIZEN who has had the misfortune to fall under the diſpleaſure of ſuch an Attorney-General as was mentioned in the ſupposed case in our last, has but little reason to hope for favor or mercy. He may think himſelf fortunate if he obtains juſtice. When a public officer, poſſeſſing the power and influence of an Attorney-General, has the preſumption to draw up a bill of indictment in his own office, before court-time, when he ſo far overleaps the duties of his office, and intrudes upon the rights of his fellow-men, as to put into the hands of a ſheriff a liſt of the perſons to be ſummoned as grand-jurors—and when theſe grand-jurors ſo far loſe ſight of dignity and independence, as to become the dupes and humble tools of the Attorney-General—then, indeed, muſt the citizen tremble for his liberty. The time may ſoon arrive, when he will be compelled to mourn its loſs. For, if party-ſpirit is once permitted to creep into our courts, and uſurp the ſeat of juſtice, not even the name of liberty will remain.

To thoſe who are acquainted with the political character of the Attorney-General of this ſtate, it will not appear ſurprizing that he ſhould be driven about by prejudice and paſſion. He is well known to be ſimilar to a leaden bullet—heavy and harmleſs, except when put in motion by the fire and brimſtone of his paſſions.

Mr. Spencer had taken conſiderable time to mature his plan for arreſting and ſilencing the junior editor of this paper; and yet he had proceeded with ſo much cunning and ſecrecy, that no ſuſpicions were entertained of his intentions. Indeed, it might have been ſuppoſed, that he would be the laſt man in the world, to lay a reſtraint upon the preſs. It is true that he had been once or twice mentioned in no very reſpectful manner in the publication entitled "The Waſp;" but he always affected to treat ſuch things with ſo much diſdain, that it could hardly have been expected that he would retaliate upon the printer in the manner he has. Beſides, the junior-editor had ſufficient reaſon to believe that Mr. Spencer was, in a conſiderable degree, a lover of ſlander; that he could ſwallow calumny with a pretty good relish—nay, that he could even feaſt on detraction. Of theſe reaſons the reader ſhall be informed:—At the time that Thomas Paine's ſecond or third letter (it is not recollected which) firſt arrived in Hudſon, Mr. Spencer was in the Poſt-Office, with two or three of his democratic companions (it would be a burleſque to call them his *friends.*) The junior editor of the Balance was alſo there. Mr. Spencer took up the National Intelligencer, and, turning to his followers obſerved, "Here is another letter from Mr. Paine—come, gentlemen, walk down to Holt's and hear it read—it will be *an excellent treat before dinner.*" Mr. Spencer need not deny this fact. It was laid up at the time, as a precious memorandum; and it is now brought forward to ſhew that neither a hatred of ſlander, nor a regard for the public good, actuated him in his attack on the preſs. It is ridiculous for Mr. Spencer to lay any claim to decency, as long as the above fact ſtands recorded againſt him. What! can the man abhor licentiouſneſs, who declares that the villainous and abominable letters of Tom Paine are an excellent treat for *gentlemen* before dinner? No, no—the thing is impoſſible. Nobody will believe it. Mr. Spencer's profeſſions of regard for the honor and dignity of the nation, have become ſtale and unavailing. The maſk of patriotiſm which he, for obvious reaſons, has put on, only ſerves to ſet off, in darker colours, that hideous figure of tyranny and ambition which it ſcarcely half conceals.

REVOLUTION OF WORDS.

In the fluctuations of the Engliſh language, ſeveral words have entirely changed their original ſignifications; among which are the words *knave and villain.* The word *knave* formerly ſignified neither more nor leſs than a ſervant. In a very ancient tranſlation of that part of the Bible called the new teſtament, one of Paul's epiſtles begins thus, "Paul a *knave* of Jeſus Chriſt." The word knave now means a man, who is either diſhoneſt in money-dealings or elſe makes uſe of impoſing arts and deceptive intrigues to accompliſh his purpoſes. For inſtance, political hypocricy, or ſham-patriotiſm, is really and properly a ſpecies of knavery, as well as ſwindling and cheating in money tranſactions.

The word *villain* was not originally indicative of any ſpecies of roguery. It was, ſome few centuries ago, an appellation or common name for whole claſſes of people. Tenants, tradeſmen, common citizens, and indeed the people generally who were not exalted by office or rank, were called villains in public writings, and even in the national acts.—This word alſo has ſuffered a degradation; and there is now always aſſociated with it the idea of ſome ſpecies of moral turpitude.

As it is very difficult to recover a good character that has been once loſt, it is improbable that thoſe two words, eſpecially as they have ſo long aſſociated with bad company, will ever regain the character originally attached to them.

DEMOCRATIC SLANDER REFUTED.

We had prepared an article of ſome length, to refute the ſlanders againſt Major Ten Broeck, which were publiſhed in the laſt Bee; but being informed that Mr. Holt has agreed to publiſh the following certificates and receipt, accompanied with a ſuitable retraction and apology, we forbear to make uſe of the advantages which are in our hands for deſtroying the reputation of the Bee. By merely republiſhing half a column from the Bee of laſt week, we could fix a ſtain on Holt's editorial character, that neither years of repentance nor whole columns of apology could wipe away. But we forbear. We diſdain to take advantage of a fallen enemy. Our only object has been to defend an honeſt and injured man. This object we have ſteadily purſued, until our antagoniſts are compelled to acknowledge that our ſtatements have been perfectly correct, and that theirs have been erroneous. We, therefore, treat with ſilent contempt the abuſe which the Bee has beſtowed on ourſelves. We have diſcharged our duty to the public, and to Major Ten Broeck; and when Holt has honeſtly done the ſame, his conſcience will be relieved from an oppreſſive load.

The ſubjoined copies will ſhew, that Major Ten Broeck is not a public delinquent; but that he paid every cent that was due from him to the treaſury, immediatly after he had aſcertained the amount:—

[COPIES.]

"WE the ſubſcribers, do certify, that "we have ſeen, in the hands of John C. "Ten Broeck, the bond given by him, "Daniel Penfield and Cotton Gelſton, "to the United States, for the faithful "performance of the duties of Collector "of the internal revenue, by the ſaid "John C. Ten Broeck; and that the following receipt and certificate, the former ſigned by Edward Livingſton, and "the latter by Daniel Penfield, are true "copies of the originals, endorſed on the "ſaid bond. Dated at Hudſon, 15th "April, 1803.

(Signed) "DAVID LAWRENCE,
"HEZEKIAH DAYTON."

"New-York, January 22d, 1803. Re"ceived from Daniel Penfield, twenty-"ſix hundred and eighty-four dollars and "ſix cents, in full for the within bond, "which is hereby delivered over and aſ"ſigned to him, for his ſecurity againſt "the principal and the other ſurety in "the ſame.

(Signed) "EDW. LIVINGSTON.
Attorney U. S."

"January 28th, 1803, the ſum paid "by me, above ſpecified, was duly ſettled "between me the ſubſcriber, and Cotton "Gelſton one of the ſureties within men"tioned, and the within named John C. "Ten Broeck. I do, therefore, releaſe "and diſcharge the within bond, and "hereby cancel the ſame.

(Signed) "DANIEL PENFIELD."

Agricultural.

FROM THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE CULTURE OF THE CURRANT BUSH.

THE currant-bush, though a shrub that grows almost spontaneously, requires nevertheless some dressing; in regard to which the following directions may be of service.

Plant them round the quarters in your garden, that they may have the benefit of the dung and culture annually bestowed thereon, which will consequently make the berries large and the juice rich. The red currant is preferable to the white, as yielding richer juice, and in much greater quantity.

Take the most luxuriant slips or shoots of a year's growth, set them in the ground about eight inches deep, and not less than twenty-four distant from each other; these never fail of taking root, and generally begin to bear in two years. For the rest, let them, from time, be treated as espaliers (but not against a wall) observing to keep the roots, especially in the spring of the year, free from suckers and grass.

This treatment is the more necessary, as the goodness of the wine in a great degree depends on their having the full benefit of the sun and air, to maturate and give the berries a proper balsamic quality, by exhaling a due proportion of their acid watry particles.

Monitorial Department.

To aid the cause of virtue and religion.

☞ An excellent address from the late general meeting, at New-York, of the people called Quakers, having been handed us by a friend, we shall republish it in continuation as an important system of advice and admonition to individuals and to the public. Edit. Bal.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE U. STATES.

THAT "righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people," was not only the testimony of a wise man, founded on experience, but is a serious truth involving many important considerations, that are deeply interesting to mankind, and very nearly connected with their present welfare, and future happiness. Under these impressions, and feeling much solicitude for the real good of our fellow-citizens, we are engaged thus to address them.

In contemplating the multiplied blessings with which our country has been, and continues to be favoured, we are led to consider, that great are the obligations we are under to the bountiful Dispenser of all good, and loud the call to gratitude and thankfulness of heart;—a disposition incumbent on every rational being, as an acknowledgment for the goodness of GOD;—a disposition on which may be founded the reasonable hope of his continued favour; as history and our own observation furnish ample proof, that in every age of the world those individuals, or that people have been the favourites of heaven, and the peculiar heirs of its blessings, who have not followed cunningly devised fables, but substantial truth; whose concern it has been to glorify the Divine Being, by walking before him in truth, choosing the good, and turning from evil: and while we view this as the medium through which we may with confidence look for the continued blessings of heaven, we are sorrowfully affected in observing the abundant evils that are, (and it is to be feared some of them increasingly) prevalent in our country; all having a direct tendency, more or less, to impair the morals of the people, and lead from the paths of piety and virtue: and although we do not apprehend it our present business to enumerate many of those that are as the bane of society, and very injurious in their nature and effects to such as give way thereto, and also extremely debasing to man; yet, there are some of them so seriously impressive on our minds as to claim a place in this address.

The common, but very pernicious practice of Horseracing, we consider to be an evil that embraces many other vices, and is certainly a great nuisance in a well-ordered civil society, it having a natural tendency, by corrupting the mind, gradually to open the way to many other vicious habits. We may also subjoin the cruel diversion of Cockfighting, with other amusements of a similar nature, that are repugnant to every humane and tender feeling. What pleasure can result to a rational mind from torturing and afflicting those poor animals which were intended for the use and comfort of man?

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

APHORISM.—Who hides hatred to accomplish revenge is great, like the prince of hell.—LAVATER.

Political.

The following CIRCULAR LETTER from the Hon. *John Stanley*, Member of Congress from the State of North Carolina, to his Constituents, exhibits a candid, just, and concise statement of the proceedings of our National Legislature during the last session. A review of the transactions of this body should be frequently had, for their acts of folly and weakness have been so multifarious, and have proceeded in such rapid succession, that those which are passed are obliterated in the consideration of those constantly arising. Mr. Stanley has presented this subject in a manner which will deservedly command the attention of every one, solicitous for the concerns of the country.

[*Gazette U. States.*]

CITY OF WASHINGTON,

March 1, 1803.

DEAR SIR,

AT the close of a session of congress, I cannot feel that I have discharged my duty until I have informed those whose interests I represent, of such proceedings as may concern them to know. This duty I now meet with pleasure. In discharging it, I shall avow the opinions I have entertained, with the same candor and freedom, with which I have given them here: persuaded that next to an honest exertion of the mind to decide right, an independent communication of sentiment is the most acceptable offering from a representative to his constituents.

The attention of congress was early called to a "violation on the part of Spain, of the treaty between the United States and the king of Spain." To understand this business, you will recollect, that Spain holding the territory on the West of the Mississippi, extending to the Gulph of Mexico, and on the east of the Mississippi south of the southern boundary of the United States, in the 31 deg. of N. latitude, is consequently proprietor of both sides the mouth of the river. The great difficulty, and in fact the impossibility at some seasons of ascending the river Mississippi in sea vessels to a height convenient to receive the produce of our Western States, had convinced the United States of the necessity of obtaining from Spain the right to deposit our produce on their territory, from whence it was conveniently accessible by our ships; and also of securing to them, the free use of this highway to market. These objects were obtained by the treaty concluded with Spain the 27th day of October, 1795, by the 22d article of which it stipulated, "That his Catholic Majesty will permit the citizens of the United States for the space of three years to deposit their merchandize and effects in the port of New-Orleans, and to export them from thence without

paying any other duty than a fair price for the hire of the ſtores, and his majeſty promiſes either to continue this permiſſion if he finds during that time that it is not prejudicial to the intereſts of Spain, or if he ſhould not agree to continue it there, he will aſſign to them *on another part of the banks of the Miſſiſſippi, an equivalent eſtabliſhment.*" It was now ſuggeſted that our ſhips had been excluded from New-Orleans, and the right of depoſit prohibited. No information on this ſubject being given in the meſſage of the Preſident, the Houſe of Repreſentatives on the 17th December, 1802, by reſolution requeſted the Preſident "to cauſe to be laid before the Houſe ſuch information in the poſſeſſion of the department of ſtate, as relates to a violation on the part of Spain, of the 22d article of the treaty of friendſhip, navigation and limits between the United States and the king of Spain." From the communication of the Preſident in conſequence of this reſolution, it was aſcertained that the Intendant of New-Orleans, the officer intruſted with the commercial concerns of the province, had by proclamation on the October, 1802, interdicted the American right of depoſit at New-Orleans, without aſſigning any other "equivalent eſtabliſhment." It was alſo known that the Governor General of Louiſiana at New-Orleans did not condemn, but explicitly vindicated the meaſure. This act, directly violating a ſolemn treaty, producing an immediate immenſe loſs to a great portion of our citizens, and viewed by many as the commencement of meaſures intended to deprive us of a place of depoſit, and to obſtruct the free navigation of the river: rights eſſential to the proſperity of the Weſtern ſtates; affected too deeply the honor and intereſt of the United States, not to merit the earlieſt and moſt ſerious conſideration. The claim of this ſubject to attention was rendered peculiarly ſtrong as connected with the ceſſion of Louiſiana by Spain to France, placed within the notice of Congreſs by the Preſident's mention of it in his meſſage "as making a change in the aſpect of our foreign relations, & entitled to juſt weight in deliberations of the legiſlature connected with that ſubject." To enable Congreſs to act with underſtanding on this ſubject, and to judge what meaſures, if any, were neceſſary to be taken, Mr. Griſwold, on the 5th January, moved the following reſolution:

"*Reſolved*, That the Preſident of the United States be requeſted to direct the proper officer to lay before this Houſe, copies of ſuch official documents, as have been received by this government, announcing the ceſſion of Louiſiana to France, together with a report explaining the ſtipulations, circumſtances and conditions under which that province is to be delivered up—unleſs ſuch documents and report will, in the opinion of the Preſident, divulge to the Houſe particular tranſactions not proper at this time to be communicated."

This reſolution was oppoſed—That the province of Louiſiana had been ceded by Spain to France—that this ceſſion, if carried into effect, would change the aſpect of our foreign relations, and therefore entitled to weight in legiſlative deliberations, were facts too deeply intereſting to the United States to have eſcaped notice, even though they had not been preſſed into the view of the legiſlature and recommended to their attention by the high authority and ſolemn ſanction of the Preſident. An oppoſition therefore to a call for information—a call reſpectful in its terms, ſubmitting the extent of the communication to the judgment of the Preſident, was not to have been expected. The majority of the Houſe diſcovered ſtrong jealouſy of this reſolution, and after various unſucceſsful attempts to have it conſidered, it was at length taken up and rejected. In diſcuſſing this reſolution much extraneous matter was introduced; —the only arguments which I could diſcover againſt the adoption of the reſolution were that ſuch an inquiry, implying a ſuſpicion of unfriendly or improper conduct on the part of Spain towards us might irritate that nation; and that negociations were about commencing between our government and Spain and France. The doctrine advanced on this occaſion, that although the tranſactions of a foreign nation ſhall be ſolemnly mentioned by the preſident in an official communication as changing the aſpect of our foreign relations and entitled to weight in our deliberations; and although meaſures highly injurious to our rights and intereſt, and probably a conſequence of this tranſaction, have been adopted, yet that a fear to irritate ſhall oblige us to forbear from enquiry; to ſhut our ears to any information on the ſubject, leſt we diſcover a ſuſpicion of unfriendly deſigns, that in fact (for it amounts to this) we ſhall never prepare to meet an hoſtile deſign, until it is "known to us by its execution," as a doctrine not only novel, but too palpably dangerous to be admitted as the real objection to this reſolution—As to the objection on the ground that negociation was about commencing, let it be conceded that the direction of negociation belongs ſolely to the Executive, does it reſult, or can it be ſeriouſly contended that under our government the determination of the Executive to negociate, takes from the legiſlature their conſtitutional power of conſidering what meaſures are neceſſary for the public welfare? Such a doctrine can conſiſt only with a ſupremacy in the Executive—a doctrine at variance with the fundamental principles of our government. If the ceſſion of Louiſiana was a ſubject not proper for the conſideration of Congreſs, why was it mentioned in the meſſage? And if this conſideration was rendered improper by the intention to negociate, why was that intention never communicated? The belief that there were yet other objections to this reſolution not advanced by its opponents forces itſelf on the mind, and is ſtrengthened by the circumſtance, that in the reſolution of 17th December the tranſactions at New-Orleans were, without fear to irritate, openly and properly called "a violation of our treaty on the part of Spain." Surely too, the Preſident would not have hazarded the public ſafety by preſſing on our notice in a public communication, a tranſaction deeply intereſting to our rights and intereſts; but which was covered with a veil not to be raiſed but with danger or indelicacy. The preſident knew it to be his duty to acquire information on the ſubject—to preſume that he has not done ſo, would be to reproach him with reprehenſible indifference to, and neglect of our intereſts. Yet, improbable as the ſuggeſtion might otherwiſe be, the circumſtances go far towards compelling a belief, that the Preſident had neither ſought or obtained any official information on the ſubject, or that his enquiries had not been treated with that reſpect, which is due to the American nation: and that a rejection of the reſolution was reſorted to as the only mode of ſhielding him from the mortifying diſcloſure. Mr. Griſwold alſo moved the following reſolutions:

"*Reſolved*, That the people of the United States are entitled to the free navigation of the river Miſſiſſippi.

"*Reſolved*, That the navigation of the river Miſſiſſippi has been obſtructed by the regulations recently carried into effect at New-Orleans.

"*Reſolved*, That the right of freely navigating the river Miſſiſſippi ought never to be abandoned by the United States.

"*Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what legiſlative meaſures are neceſſary to ſecure to the people of the United States the free navigation of the river Miſſiſſippi."

Theſe were not acted upon, the majority refuſing to take the motion into conſideration. The following reſolutions on the ſame ſubject were afterwards agreed to with cloſed doors—

"*Reſolved*, That this Houſe receive with great ſenſibility the information of a diſpoſition in certain officers of the Spaniſh government at New-Orleans, to obſtruct the navigation of the river Miſſiſſippi, as ſecured to the United States by the moſt ſolemn ſtipulations:

"That adhering to that humane and wiſe policy which ought ever to characterize a free people, and by which the United States have always profeſſed to be

governed ; willing, at the ſame time to aſcribe this breach of compact to the unauthoriſed miſconduct of certain individuals, rather than to a want of good faith on the part of his Catholic Majeſty ; and relying with perfect confidence, on the vigilance and wiſdom of the Executive, they will wait the iſſue of ſuch meaſures as that department of the government ſhall have purſued for aſſerting the rights, and vindicating the injuries of the United States ; holding it to be their duty, at the ſame time, to expreſs their unalterable determination to maintain the boundaries and the rights of navigation and commerce through the river Miſſiſſippi, as eſtabliſhed by exiſting treaties."

To theſe reſolutions it was objected, that the ſoft language of "ſenſibility" was inadequate to the expreſſion, by the repreſentatives of a free people, of the national ſenſe of a great national wrong. That the reſolution diſcovered a timid diſpoſition in calling that a "diſpoſition to violate" our treaty, which was proved to us to be an actual and avowed, not a contemplated or ſuſpected, infraction of the treaty. That it contained a declaration of "perfect confidence in the wiſdom and vigilance" of the Executive, and a determination to wait the iſſue of meaſures purſued by that department, at a time that we had no knowledge whether any meaſures had been taken, and that it pledged the United States to wait the reſult of negociation (the only meaſure the Executive can purſue without the authority of congreſs) when the intereſt and ſafety of the United States may render ſuch delay dangerous, and demand meaſures, if not of action, at leaſt of preparation.

Nothing urged in anſwer to theſe objections had the effect of obviating them in my mind. A ſeparate queſtion was taken on the different members of this reſolution. Although many thought them liable to the objections I have ſtated, and would have preferred the adoption of thoſe moved by Mr. Griſwold, yet they united in the vote in favour of ſuch principles as accorded with their own. The declaration of a ſenſe of the wrong ; the diſpoſition to adhere to that humane and wiſe policy which ſhould always characterize a free people, and by which the United States had always profeſſed to be governed ; and the determination to maintain the rights of boundary and the free navigation of the river Miſſiſſippi, were unanimouſly agreed to. It was moved to ſtrike out the declaration of perfect confidence in the wiſdom and vigilance of the Executive, and the determination to wait the iſſue of ſuch meaſures as that department *ſhall have* purſued. On this queſtion I voted in the affirmative ; becauſe the ſolemn vote of perfect confidence on an occaſion where no ſuch expreſſion was neceſſary, and on a ſubject where the language of compliment or ſervility ſhould not be heard, is only due to the exertion of thoſe qualities in meaſures known and approved : Whereas, in the preſent caſe, ſo far from meaſures being known, and found to merit approbation, we were left to conjecture whether any had been taken. Indeed the rejection of the call for information regarding Louiſiana, aſcribing only to the neglect of the executive to procure any ; the want of official information what meaſures had been adopted, and the appointment of a miniſter extraordinary to negociate on this ſubject *not until after* theſe proceedings in the Houſe, warrant the opinion that at the time of this vote of confidence, the executive had not even taken thoſe meaſures which his own judgment ſuggeſted to be neceſſary. In ſupport of this blind-fold vote of confidence it was argued, that it was the theory of our conſtitution to aſcribe "wiſdom and vigilance" to the Executive in the exerciſe of powers confided to that department. Permit me here to remark, that it is the theory of the Britiſh government to attribute ſuch "perfect wiſdom and vigilance" to their King that it has become a maxim of their conſtitution "that the King can do no wrong." If the theory of our conſtitution be as advanced on this occaſion, it differs but in ſound from the deformity of the Britiſh ; and under ours, as under that the theory and practice will frequently be at variance. I prize our conſtitution, as the rock of our ſafety. The obligation of an oath adds not to my diſpoſition to ſupport it ; but neither my attachment or duty can induce me to aſcribe "perfect wiſdom and vigilance" to a branch of the government in particular, where the evidence rather militates againſt, than ſupports the claim.

The motion to reject this part was loſt. Upon the queſtion to agree to the whole reſolution, thoſe whoſe objections had not been obviated : who thought the vote of perfect cofidence improper ; having recorded their votes in favour of ſuch parts of the reſolution as were neceſſary or proper ; and believing that the reſolutions ſubmitted by Mr. Griſwold, were preferable, and that no injury could ariſe, if thoſe under conſideration were rejected, voted againſt them. I concurred in this vote. To ſhew that thoſe who differed from the majority in the preference of the reſolutions adopted, to thoſe moved by Mr. Griſwold, were not, as malice or ignorance may ſuggeſt, neceſſarily advocates for immediate meaſures of hoſtility ; and that on an occaſion ſimilar to the preſent, under an adminiſtration meriting and poſſeſſing the perfect confidence of the people, a line of conduct was purſued correſponding to that which it was the object of Mr. Griſwold's reſolutions to obtain, I beg leave to recall to your recollection the proceedings of Congreſs in conſequence of the unjuſtifiable order of the King of England to his naval commanders to capture our ſhips in the year 1793. At the opening of the ſeſſion of Congreſs the Preſident (Waſhington) communicated the ſubject to congreſs, accompanying his communication with a copy of his inſtructions given by him to our Miniſter at the Britiſh Court for demanding redreſs. The language of Waſhington on this occaſion was :—"There is a rank due to the United States among nations which will be withheld, if not abſolutely loſt by the reputation of weakneſs. If we deſire to avoid inſult, we muſt be prepared to repel it. If we deſire to preſerve peace, one of the moſt powerful inſtruments of our riſing proſperity, it muſt be known that we are at all times ready for war." Had a fear to irritate thoſe who had done us wrong, enfeebled the mind of that great man, he would have withheld until called for the information of the injury done us. But with the firmneſs which marked his character and which elevated the American character under his adminiſtration, he communicated uncalled for the information : Not afraid to truſt the national council with a conſtitutional participation in deviſing meaſures for the preſervation of our rights, he communicated alſo the inſtructions he had given for demanding redreſs. Juſt as was the claim of the Preſident to approbation, the legiſlature forbore from adulation. But with the independence of freemen and a promptneſs becoming the guardians of the rights of their fellow-citizens, they truſted not the ſafety and honor of their county to ſoft expreſſions of "ſenſibility"—they acted. They authoriſed the Preſident to embody and call out 80,000 militia, if circumſtances ſhould render it neceſſary—they ſuſpended, for a time by embargo, all commercial intercourſe—they adopted and acted upon the opinion of their wiſe and vigilant Preſident, "That to avoid inſult we muſt be prepared to repel it."

On the January, the Preſident nominated to the Senate James Monroe as Miniſter Extraordinanry to the Courts of the King of Spain and Firſt Conſul of France, to act in conjunction with our Miniſter at theſe Courts, to negociate, it is preſumed, reſpecting the ſhutting the port of New-Orleans, and the ceſſion of Louiſiana.—This gentleman was formerly our Miniſter to France and was recalled by Waſhington for miſconduct.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

PARAGRAPH—*After the manner of the Aurora.*

Some have ſuppoſed that all the learned paragraphs in the Aurora were not written by myſelf. This is true and there is a very good reaſon for it—they were written by—another perſon. [*Gaz U. S.*]

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

Hudson, *April* 19, 1803.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

We learn, with pleaſure, that federaliſm ſtill encreaſes in Connecticut. In Hartford, where the federal and democratic candidates for aſſemblymen had an *equal* number of votes laſt fall, a majority of 99 is now given for the ſame federaliſt. In Litchfield, where democratic aſſemblymen were elected laſt fall, federaliſts are now choſen* by a majority of 29. The votes for governor, as far as accounts have come to hand, ſtand thus :—

	TRUMBULL.	KIRBY.
Hartford	312	169
Weathersfield	242	21
Eaſt-Hartford	179	21
Litchfield	293	232
Warren	98	13
Saliſbury	123	68
Bethlem	144	0

*The gentlemen elected in Litchfield, are James Morris and Frederick Wolcott. Perhaps Holt will pretend that *Oliver* Wolcott is the person chosen; and, if we contradict him, he will probably produce *extracts of letters without ſignatures* to prove his aſſertion.

The democrats in New-York have agreed to ſupport Col. John Broome, as Senator for that diſtrict at the enſuing election.

MERCHANTS' BANK.

A new banking inſtitution has been formed in New-York, conſiſting of a capital of 1,250,000 dollars, in ſhares of 50 dollars each. The directors are Oliver Wolcott, *Preſident*—Richard Varick, Joſhua Jones, Peter Jay Munro, John Kane, William W. Woolſey, Iſaac Bronſon, Thomas Storm, John Hone, John Swartwout, Henry Wyckoff, Iſaac Hicks, Robert Gilchriſt, James Roſevelt, Joſhua Sands, W. Van Zandt, jun.

One Henry Putnam, of Georgia, has ſued the proprietors of this paper for a *libel* againſt his *fame, good name, and reputation*. The people of Georgia may be a little ſurpriſed at this, but it is not more ſtrange than true. Putnam was appointed by Mr. Jefferſon to command a revenue cutter. [*Waſh. Federaliſt.*]

Huzza for the liberty of the preſs ! ! !

Down with the gag law : Away with all oppreſſion and reſtraint. Stop a moment, I juſt want to choke a few of theſe Ariſtocrats, and then you may cry out as much as you pleaſe—Oh, if you only want to gag an Ariſtocrat, its all well enough. It is your duty to proceed ; it is the part of patriotiſm to check theſe fellows. But to ſqueeze the wind pipe, or ſtop the tonge of a good *Republican*, even if he is *republican-too much* as Mr. Smilie ſays, it's downright tyranny.—*ib.*

FEDERAL REPUBLICAN NOMINATION.

At a Meeting of the Federal Republican committees from the different towns in the county of Columbia, held at the houſe of Jacob Moul, on the 16th of April, 1803.

SAMUEL EDMONDS, Eſq. *Chairman*,
HENRY W. LIVINGSTON, *Clerk*.

Reſolved, That the following perſons be ſupported at the enſuing election, as Members of Aſſembly, to repreſent the county of Columbia in the legiſlature of this ſtate.

WILLIAM W. VAN NESS.
MONCRIEF LIVINGSTON.
ANSON PRATT.
GARRET COCK.

Reſolved, That EBENEZER FOOTE, of the county of Delaware, and JACOB FORD, of the county of Columbia, be ſupported as Senators to repreſent the middle diſtrict in the Legiſlature of this State.

Reſolved, That Hezekiah L. Hoſmer, Eliſha Williams, Jacob R. Van Renſſelaer, and Reuben Folger, be a committee to correſpond with the committees appointed by the Federaliſts in the other counties, compoſing the middle diſtrict.

Reſolved, That the following perſons be appointed to promote in their ſeveral towns, the election of the above mentioned candidates, viz.

Philip Rockefeller, Peter Sharp, William Schepmoes, Frederick Rockefeller, Henry Rockefeller, Coenradt B. Laſher, John Kortz, Jacob H. Miller, Joſiah Naſh, and Peter Hyſer in the town of Germantown.

Samuel Wilbore, Hoſea Beebe, Timothy Oakley, Joſeph Veal, Ebenezer Baſſet, Job Northrop, William Holdridge, Ebenezer Cady, jun. Caleb Knight, John I. Miller, Edward Upton, Elkanah Briggs and Allen Bullis, in the town of Chatham.

Samuel Edmonds, John C. Ten Broeck, William Begraft, Claudius I. Delamater, Joſhua Tobey, Reuben Morton, jun. Leverett Crittenden, Hezekiah L. Hoſmer and Eliſha Williams of the city of Hudſon.

Peter Bain, Dederick Snyder, Jonas Miller, John Poſt, Michael Wheeler, Frederick Van Taſſel, Cornelius L. Decker, John I. Shaver, of the town of Granger.

Nicholas Kline, John Wrigram, Chriſtopher Schultz, James Irvine, Reuben M'Arthur, Ebenezer Birch, Caleb Finch, and Jeremiah Burger, of the town of Gallatin.

Cornelius Sylveſter, Robert Goes, Daniel Staats, Oliver Beaumont, Andries Wiltbeck, John Philip, Aaron Pruyn, John Van Dyck, Jacob Claw, Henry L. Van Dyck, Philip Harder, John Kittle, Samuel Van Slyck, Ebenezer Crocker, Dirck Gardenier, Dyer Throop, Francis Sylveſter, of the town of Kinderhook.

John Tryon, Eliſha Gilbert, jun. Peter Van Vleck, Samuel Olmſtead, Lemuel Davis, Abraham Hand, Aaron Kellogg, William Ayleſworth, Nathan Whiting, William Luſk, of the town of Canaan.

John M'Gonnegal, Nathan Kellogg, George Buſhnell, Thomas Trueſdale, John Collin, Beriah Phelps, David Pratt, Charles M'Kinſtry, Jacob Bogardus, Gaius Stebbins, Abraham Holdridge, Oliver Teale, Squire Sherwood, Joſeph Jewett, of the town of Hillſdale.

Henry I. Meſick, Henry I. Skinkle, John Whitbeck, jun. Adam Emrigh, Aaron Oſtrander, Jacob Moul, George Philips, Jacob Eſilſtyne, Philip Hainer, Samuel Weſt, Fite Roſſman, Jeremiah I. Ten Broeck, Andrew M. Carſhore, Lawrence Fonda, and Joſeph Horton, of the town of Claverack.

Henry Yonkhanſe, Peter Smith, John I. Smith, Henry Livingſton, John M'Kinſtry, William Huddleſton, John Shaver, John Livingſton, Peter Shaver, Marks Platner, Walter T. Livingſton, Wilhelmus Beſt, John I. Decker, Johannis Barrenger, of the town of Livingſton.

Thomas Broadhead, George I. Beſt, John Lynk, Adam Clum and Herman Hoffman, of the town of Clermont.

SAMUEL EDMONDS, *Chairman*.
HENRY W. LIVINGSTON, *Clerk*.

To Readers & Correspondents.

Lines "On the return of Spring," do not poſſeſs ſufficient merit to entitle them to publication.

An ADDRESS to the Electors of the County of Columbia, which was to have accompanied the nomination of Senators and Assembly-men, is omitted for want of room : and will be in our next.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND AGENTS.

Such of our diſtant ſubſcribers as have not yet paid their advances for the BALANCE, are informed that our agents are authorized to receive payments. Agents are desired to forward the money they receive, by mail, whenever the amount is ſuch as to be comprized in a bank-bill.

The Wreath.

From the first Volume of the U. S. Gazette.

EXTRACT FROM AN ORATION,

Pronounced at Marietta on the 4th of July, 1789,

By Return J. Meigs, Esq. Attorney at Law.

ENOUGH of tributrary praise is paid,
To virtue living, or to merit dead,
To happier themes, the rural Muse invites,
To calmest pleasures, and serene delights;
To us, glad fancy, brightest prospects shows,
Rejoicing nature, all around you glows;
Here late the *Savage* hid in ambush lay,
Or roam'd the uncultur'd vallies for his prey;
Here frown'd the forest with terrific shade,
No cultur'd fields expos'd the opening glade;
How chang'd the scene! See nature cloth'd in smiles
With joy repays the lab'rer for his toils.
Her hardy gifts, rough industry extends,
The groves bow down, the lofty forest bends;
On every side, the cleaving axes sound,
The oak, and tall beach *thunder* to the ground.

And see the spires of Marietta rise,
And domes, and temples swell into the skies:
Here Justice reign, and foul dissention cease,
Her walks be pleasant—and her paths be peace.

Here swift Muskingum rolls his rapid waves;
There furmenous vallies, fair Ohio laves,
On its smooth surface, gentle zephyrs play,
The sun beams tremble with a placid ray;
What future harvests on his bosom glide,
And loads of Commerce swell the "downward tide,"
Where Mississippi joins in length'ning sweep,
And rolls majestic to the atlantic deep.

Along our banks, see distant villas spread—
Here waves the corn—and *there* extends the mead—
Here sound the murmurs of the gurgling rills;
There bleat the flocks upon a thousand hills.
Fair opes the lawn—the fertile fields extend,
The kindly shower from smiling Heaven descends,
The skies drop fatness, on the blooming vale,
From spicy shrubs ambrosial sweet exhale,
Fresh fragrance rises from the flowrets bloom,
And ripening vineyards breathe a "glad perfume."
Here swells the music of the warbling grove,
And all aronnd is melody and love.

Here may religion fix her blest abode—
Bright emanation of creative God;
Here Charity extend her liberal hand,
And mild benevolence o'er-spread the land,
In harmony the social virtues blend—
Joy, without measure—rapture, without end.

WRITTEN IN THE BLANK LEAF OF A LADY'S COMMONPLACE BOOK.

HERE is one leaf, reserv'd for me,
From all thy dear memorials free;
And here my simple song might tell
The feelings thou must guess so well:
But could I thus, within thy mind,
One little vacant corner find,
Where no impression yet is seen,
Where no memorial yet has been,
Oh it should be my sweetest care,
To *write my name forever there.*

Diversity.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

IN the country of the Indians in East-Florida, about 75 miles west of St. Augustine, there is a green, level plain, above 15 miles over, and 50 in circumference; on which there is scarcely a tree or a bush of any kind to be seen. It is encircled with high sloping hills, covered with waving forests, and fragrant orange-groves, rising from an exuberantly fertile soil.

Morse's Gazetteer.

A HORRIBLE crime was lately committed in the environs of Vienna. A girl who had been in service in that city, and had saved 400 florins, set out from thence for the purpose of taking the money home to her family. In her way she stopped at a public house in a village in order to pass the night, the master and mistress of which were her relations. Having related to her hostess the object of her journey, the latter formed the diabolical project of murdering her for the purpose of getting possession of the money. In order to execute this horrid crime with greater facility, she proposed that the girl should sleep in her own chamber in her daughter's bed, and that the latter should remove into a closet, which was assented to.—Before they retired to rest, however, and in the absence of the mother, the two cousins had some conversation, and at length agreed that the daughter should sleep in her own bed, and that the other girl should sleep in the closet, after which they both retired to their respective beds as agreed upon between themselves. Soon after midnight the mother repaired to the bed where she supposed her destined victim to be asleep: but where, in consequence of the agreement of which she was ignorant, her own daughter was then lying, and poured boiling fat down her throat. She soon however discovered her mistake, and recognized her daughter by her cries, called loudly for help, but all assistance was useless, as the unfortunate girl expired in the most dreadful agonies.

[*London paper.*]

THERE lived in New-Jersey, at the period of our revolutionary war, a remarkable dwarf, who, though from twenty to thirty years old, and possessing a common degree of understanding, was only three feet high, and proportionably small in other respects. This *manikin* was introduced to General Washington, who asked him whether he was a whig or a tory: to which the little gentleman (strutting himself up) replied, that he had not hitherto taken a very *active part* on either side.

A LATE Chinese Edict, which prohibits the importation of *opium* into any part of that Empire, goes on to specify, "*and all other drugs or articles whatsoever, that shall have been found to possess the same or similar effects; as Ale, Beef, Pudding, Methodist Sermons, Modern Epic Poems, &c.*"

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